

THIRD DAY—2nd June 1928.

The Assembly re-assembled at 12 Noon.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

BY MESSRS. SUBBARAMA SETTY (Special Interest) and
S. L. MANNAJI RAO KADOM (Minority Interest).—

Q.—7. Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) whether the Chamber of Commerce requested the Government in their letter No. 133, dated 11th August 1926, to allow the Chamber to elect one of their members to serve on the Stores Purchase Committee ;

(2) whether the Government complied with their request in their order No. G. 2876-78—G.M. 175-25-6, dated 9th September 1926 ;

(3) whether the Chamber accordingly elected at their general meeting on the 5th November 1926, Mr. R. Sundaram Iyer as their representative ;

(4) whether the Government wrote to the Chamber that as the old Committee was soon coming to a close and the constitution of the new Committee was going to be changed, there was no particular object in effecting the change in the personnel of the Committee ;

(5) in case the answer is in the affirmative, whether the Government was not aware at the time of their orders that the tenure of the Committee was soon coming to a close ;

(6) why the Chamber's elected representative was not allowed to sit on the Committee for the remaining period of the tenure of the Committee ;

(7) whether the Government subsequently nominated Mr. Venkatasubbiah, Chairman, to represent the Chamber ;

(8) why the election was changed to nomination ;

(9) whether it is not a retrograde step in these days of democratic government.

GENERAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—7. (1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

- (3) Yes.
 (4) Yes.
 (5) No.
 (6) The arrangement of having a member of the Chamber on the Committee was a new one and it was decided to give effect to it on the reconstitution of the Committee.
 (7) Yes.
 (8) Nomination was considered the more appropriate method in this case.
 (9) This is a matter of opinion.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. P. Subbarama Setty.—

At the time of granting the privilege to the Chamber of Commerce of electing a representative to serve on the Stores Purchase Committee, did not Government which constituted that Committee know when its term would expire ?

Second Member of Council.—

The term had not, I think, been definitely fixed.

Mr. P. Subbarama Setty.—

Every time a Committee is appointed, is not its term defined ?

Second Member of Council.—

In this case, I think, it was not.

Mr. P. Subbarama Setty.—

What was the harm in allowing the Chamber of Commerce to return a member to sit on the Stores Purchase Committee so long as its term continued ?

Second Member of Council.—

The reconstitution of the Committee was under consideration and it was proposed to provide for the representation of the Chamber on the reconstituted Committee.

Mr. P. Subbarama Setty.—

With reference to answer to Sub-Question (8), will

Government be pleased to say why it was considered that nomination was more appropriate than election ?

Second Member of Council.—

The Committee is a purchasing body and it is desirable that its members should, as far as possible, be persons not interested in the business of sales.

Mr. P. Subbarama Setty.—

If that point was indicated, would not the Chamber have taken care to return a member who was not doing business, as in the case of the City Municipal Council ?

Dewan.—

It seems to me that the whole matter can best be discussed if it is brought in the form of a representation.

Mr. P. Subbarama Setty.—

With reference to Sub-Section (9), will Government be pleased to say whether the Government had one opinion when granting to the Chamber the privilege of returning a member to the Committee but changed that opinion subsequently ?

Second Member of Council.—

The matter was reconsidered.

Mr. P. Subbarama Setty.—

Is not the subsequent decision of Government an insult to self-respecting institutions and their constituents ?

Second Member of Council.—

Not at all.

Mr. B. S. Ranoji Rao.—

Are there not some of the members of the Stores Purchase Committee continuing on it ever since its formation ?

Second Member of Council.—

I cannot say. Requires notice.

Mr. B. S. Ranoji Rao.—

Is it not necessary to increase the number of non-official members on the Committee from 2 to 4 and that two members of this Assembly are represented on it ?

Second Member of Council.—

The existing constitution of the Committee does not require any change.

By Mr. G. B. Raghavendrachar (Bangalore Urban).—

Q.—61. Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) (i) whether their attention has been drawn to the Press report appearing in the *Evening Mail* issue for 10th March 1928 in respect of the proposed appointment of Mr. Advani as Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore ;

(ii) if so, what salary is proposed to be offered to the officer ;

(iii) whether they have satisfied themselves that the new officer possesses adequate and intimate knowledge of the local conditions in Mysore, the circumstances which have necessitated the importation of an outsider ; and for what period his services are supposed to be engaged ; and

(iv) when the Department was organised first ; and
(b) to lay on the table (i) a list of names of the successive officers that have held the appointment ; and

(ii) a statement of their technical degrees, business training or experience in the control and management of industrial concerns of any magnitude either in the State or outside or any inherited capacity for organising and administering industrial or commercial enterprise.

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—61. (a) (i) Yes; the appointment will not be made.

(ii) and (iii) Do not arise.

(iv) January 1913.

(b) (i) A statement is appended (Appendix VIII).

(ii) Not possible to furnish the information required.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. G. B. Raghavendrachar.—

With reference to the reply to Sub-Question (i), will ,